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## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China/Hong Kong/USSR

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Communist Order for Cobalt, Nickel and Zinc

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The Chinese Communists have given a written order to a Hong Kong firm for 30 metric tons of nickel squares (electrolytic 99.9%), 500 tons of zinc (99.9%) and 100 metric tons of cobalt rondels (at least 97% Co). If the firm can supply the cobalt, it will receive another order for the same amount every 60 days. The cobalt can cost more than the market price.

Comment. This is obviously an attempt to get cobalt for USSR consumption, because China could not use 100 tons of cobalt in several years.

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